WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A surface acoustic wave branching filter comprising:
- a first surface acoustic wave filter having a ladder-type circuit structure including a plurality of parallel-arm resonators and a plurality of series-arm resonators, the first surface acoustic wave filter having a relatively low passband;
- a second surface acoustic wave filter having a relatively high passband that is higher than said relatively low passband; and
- a first common terminal to which one end of each of the first and second surface acoustic wave filters is connected, the first common terminal being connected to an antenna; wherein

one of the plurality of series-arm resonators and parallel-arm resonators that is closest to the first common terminal is a parallel-arm resonator and the capacitance of the parallel-arm resonator that is closest to the first common terminal is less than about 1/2 of the capacitance of another one of the plurality of parallel-arm resonators.

- 2. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the capacitance of the parallel-arm resonator that is closest to the first common terminal is in the range of about 1/40 to about 1/5 of the capacitance of said another one of the plurality of parallel-arm resonators.
 - 3. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed

in claim 1, further comprising a second common terminal to which one end of the parallel-arm resonator that is closest to the first common terminal and one end of the another one of the plurality of parallel-arm resonators are connected, and an inductance element is arranged between the second common terminal and ground potential.

- 4. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a package material housing the first and second surface acoustic wave filters, wherein the second common terminal is included in the package material.
- 5. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein a resonance frequency of the parallel-arm resonator that is closest to the first common terminal is substantially the same as the resonance frequency of said another one of the plurality of parallel-arm resonators.
- 6. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a phase adjustment element located between the second surface acoustic wave filter and the first common terminal.
- 7. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 6, wherein the amount of phase delay of the phase adjustment element is less than about 90 degrees from a central frequency of the first surface acoustic wave filter and, when seen from the side of the first common terminal, at

least about 50% of the passband of the second surface acoustic wave filter is inductive.

- 8. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 6, wherein the phase adjustment element includes a stripline.
- 9. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 6, wherein the phase adjustment element includes a capacitance element and an inductance element.
- 10. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein, when seen from the side of the first common terminal, at least about 50% of the passband of the second surface acoustic wave filter is inductive.
- 11. The surface acoustic wave branching filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said one of the plurality of parallel-arm resonators is located between the series-arm resonators.